

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
5 April 2001 (05.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/24150 A1(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G09G 3/28[FR/DE]; Chabeuilstrasse 7, D-78087 Mönchweiler (DE).
ZWING, Rainer [DE/DE]; Bozener Strasse 2, D-78052
Villingen-Schwenningen (DE).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/07395

(22) International Filing Date: 31 July 2000 (31.07.2000)

(74) Agent: SCHÄFERJOHANN, Volker; Deutsche
Thomson-Brandt GmbH, European Patent Operations,
Karl-Wiechert-Allee 74, D-30625 Hannover (DE).

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
99250347.4 30 September 1999 (30.09.1999) EP(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AU, BA, BB,
BG, BR, CA, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DM, DZ, EE, GD, GE, HR,
HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LV, MA, MG,
MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA,
US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA.(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):
DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH [DE/DE];
Hermann-Schwer-Strasse 3, D-78048 Villingen-Schwen-
ningen (DE).(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian
patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European
patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,
IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG,
CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

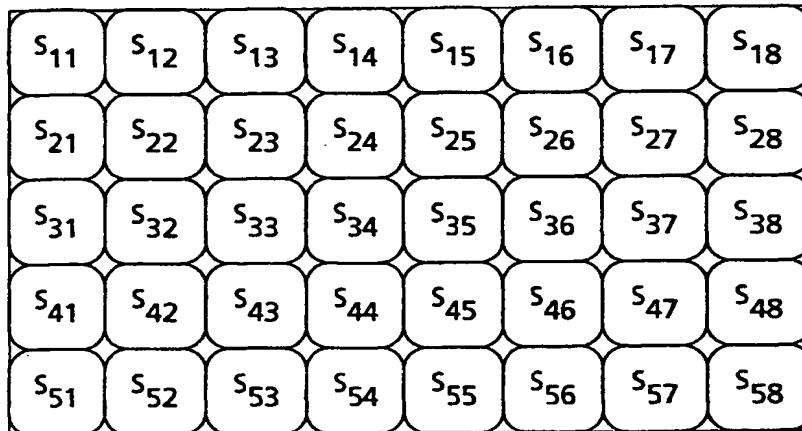
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): CORREA, Car-
los [PT/DE]; Lichtenberger Weg 4, D-78056 Villin-
gen-Schwenningen (DE). WEITBRUCH, Sébastien

Published:

— With international search report.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR POWER LEVEL CONTROL OF A DISPLAY DEVICE AND APPARATUS FOR CARRYING OUT
THE METHOD

(57) Abstract: Plasma Display Panels (PDP) are becoming more and more interesting for TV technology. One important criterion for picture quality is the Peak White Enhancement Factor PWEF. In a previous patent application a method for power level control in a display with which the PWEF can be increased has been proposed. With an increased PWEF the problem of local overheating of plasma cells may occur. This invention proposes a protection circuit, which deals with this problem. For protecting the plasma display against local overheating, there is provided a method, which performs the steps of local power value determination (18), local temperature estimation (19), maximum local temperature determination (20) and maximum power level limit determination (21). The power level limit influences the power level control process (22) in the display device so that local overheating is avoided and the highest possible PWEF can be used. The invention also concerns a corresponding apparatus for carrying out the proposed method.

WO 01/24150 A1

— Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.